

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY QWEST)	ORDER GRANTING
CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF A)	AMENDED CERTIFICATES
REVISION TO ITS RAPID CITY LOCALITY)	OF AUTHORITY AND
SPECIAL RATE AREA MAP AND FORT)	ORDER APPROVING
RANDALL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S)	REVISION TO QWEST'S
HERMOSA EXCHANGE)	RAPID CITY LOCALITY
)	SPECIAL RATE AREA MAP
)	AND FORT RANDALL
)	TELEPHONE COMPANY'S
)	HERMOSA EXCHANGE
)	TC04-041

On March 4, 2004, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Qwest Corporation (Qwest) for approval of a revision to its Rapid City Locality Special Rate Area Map and Fort Randall Telephone Company's Hermosa Exchange (Fort Randall). Fort Randall joined in the request. The territory being removed from the Qwest Rapid City exchange will now be in the Fort Randall exchange territory and Fort Randall will serve the customers in that area. On March 31, 2004, the Commission received a letter from Qwest requesting an Amended Certificate of Authority and on April 15, 2004, the Commission received a letter from Fort Randall requesting an Amended Certificate of Authority, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69. Qwest and Fort Randall also requested a waiver of subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03, as the Commission already has the information needed on file.

On March 11, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 26, 2004, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

On May 11, 2004, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of a revision to Qwest's Rapid City Locality Special Rate Area Map and Fort Randall's Hermosa Exchange, the requests for Amended Certificates of Authority, and a waiver of subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Qwest and Fort Randall have met the legal requirements established for the granting of amended certificates of authority. Qwest and Fort Randall have, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03. Further, the Commission finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69, the Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted, that the

proposed revision to Qwest's Rapid City Locality Special Rate Area Map and Fort Randall's Hermosa Exchange is in the public interest and the request shall be granted, and ARSD 20:10:32:03, subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 shall be waived. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the requests for Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the proposed revision to Qwest's Rapid City Locality Special Rate Area Map and Fort Randall's Hermosa Exchange shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 shall be waived.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of May, 2004.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner